

Docket JP920000411US1

Appl. No.: 09/783,250
Filed: February 14, 2001**REMARKS****1. Posture of the Case.**

The first Office action in the present case rejected all claims and relied on one reference, U.S. Patent 6,067,639 (Rodriguez). Applicant responsively amended claims in a Reply A.

A first final Office action cited an additional reference, U.S. Patent 6,173,440 (Darty). Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal, then an Appeal Brief of August 14, 2004.

A second final Office action, dated December 7, 2004, withdrew the Rodriguez reference and asserted a new reference, Telcordia Software Visualization and Analysis Toolsuite User's Manual, Chapter 3, ATAC: Overview. The second final Office action stated claims 13, 29, & 42 are allowable if written in independent form incorporating all the elements and limitations of their respective base claims. Applicant filed a Request for Reconsideration on January 4, 2005, asserting that both the rejections and the finality of the second final Office action were improper.

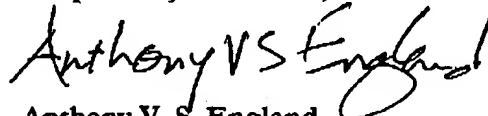
2. Action by Applicant in the Present Reply.

The Request for Reconsideration is hereby withdrawn. Amendments to claims 13, 29, & 42 are herein submitted to put them in independent form incorporating all the elements and limitations of their base claims. Claims 1, 2, 4, 18, 19, 21, 31, 32, & 34 are herein canceled. Claims 3, 5, 9, 15-17, 20, 22, 25, 33, 35, 38, 44, & 45 are herein amended so that each one of these claims is dependent on one of the allowable claims 13, 29, & 42.

REQUESTED ACTION

Applicant contends that the invention as claimed in accordance with amendments submitted herein is patentably distinct, and hereby requests that Examiner grant allowance and prompt passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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